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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR1914¹

THE year that has seen the opening of the Benjamin Altman Collection and the exhibition of the J. Pierpont Morgan Loan Collection, must be recorded as one of unusual importance in the history of the Museum. It has been an important year, however, not alone because it has witnessed the opening of these exhibitions to the public and has been marked by other acquisitions of value, but because of an increase in usefulness, both on the educational and on the artistic side, and a fuller accomplishment of activities in all directions. The membership has held its own, even in a period of financial depression; the attendance has increased over that of recent years; bequests as valuable for what they indicate of confidence in the future of the Museum as for what they bring in material things, have been received in large numbers; and gifts have been more numerous than ever before. The usefulness of the collections has been developed by systematic cataloguing and labeling, and the work of the departments has been pushed in other directions with energy and with definite results. There have been serious losses in the Board of Trustees, but the places of familiar faces have been taken by men whose interest and enthusiasm will keep alive the old tradition of devotion to the interests of the Museum.

THE TRUSTEES

John L. Cadwalader, who died March 11th, and Harris C. Fahnestock, who died June 4th, had both been Trustees since 1901. The resolutions, adopted at meetings held April 20 and October 19, 1914, give an estimate of their services to the Museum and express the high regard in which they were held:

At a meeting held February 16th, R. T. Haines Halsey and Samuel T. Peters were elected to fill vacancies in the Board of

¹An abridgment of the Annual Report of the Trustees for 1914, to give the salient points. The report in full has been printed and will be sent to all the Members of the Museum and to others upon application.

Trustees in the Classes of 1921 and 1918 respectively, and on November 9th Lewis Cass Ledyard was elected to the Class of 1915, and V. Everit Macy to the Class of 1916.

MEMBERSHIP

In the last report, the necessity of an enlarged membership as a means of increasing the income for administrative purposes was pointed out, with the statement that the Museum depended for the payment of its running expenses partly upon this form of revenue. But while the normal accession of members has occurred this year to the number of 299, the hoped-for increase cannot be recorded. The number of new members has not covered the losses occasioned by deaths and resignations, numbering 365, and the total in all classes at the end of the year was 3,169, making a decrease of 66 as compared with last year. In reference to this decrease it should be stated that since the beginning of the war, the Museum, believing the time inopportune, has dropped the usual canvass for new members. It is earnestly hoped that during the coming year substantial gains may be made.

To the list of Benefactors has been added the name of Edward S. Harkness, in recognition of his important gifts to the Department of Egyptian Art; and to the list of Honorary Fellows the names of Charles L. Hutchinson, President of the Chicago Art Institute, and John Quinn, the latter in recognition of his services to American Art by his efficient advocacy of free art in the recent tariff bill. Thirteen Fellows in Perpetuity have been elected, and sixteen Fellows for Life.

ATTENDANCE

There has been an increase of 73,811 over the attendance of last year, with a total attendance of 913,230, which is the largest in the history of the Museum except that of 1909, the year of the Hudson-Fulton Exhibition. The exhibition of the J. Pierpont Morgan Collection and the Benjamin Altman Collection, has drawn a large part of this number of visitors to the Museum, but it is gratifying to record a normal increase in the number of persons using the collections for study, and attending Museum lectures.

The attendance on holidays has been 47,098; on Sundays, 329,313; and on Saturday evenings from 6 to 10 o'clock, 26,937.

EXPENSES OF ADMINISTRATION

With the increase of the collections and of the work to be done in connection with them, the additions to the building and its equipment, and the development of its educational usefulness, the expenses of administration of the Museum have increased proportionately. The income for this purpose, however, derived from an appropriation of \$200,000 given by the City, receipts from the sales of catalogues and photographs, membership fees, admissions on pay days, and interest on Endowment Funds, has not increased in corresponding degree, so that at the end of the year a deficit of \$162,183.78 remained to be met by the Trustees from other sources.

It was pointed out in the last report that as most of the legacies and gifts received since the foundation of the Museum have been specifically designated for the purchase of works of art, the funds for running expenses have always been insufficient, and the burden of meeting such expenses has rested upon the shoulders of the Trustees, while year by year the necessity for an increased Endowment Fund has been keenly felt. The hope was expressed last year that forthcoming gifts might be made with this purpose in view, a need which the history of this year makes more emphatic.

ACCESSIONS

The figures given in the Statistical Tables of this report include the objects in the Benjamin Altman and William H. Riggs Collections, which, while announced in the report of last year, were not included in the statistics then given. The total number of objects received by bequest, by gift, and by purchase was 6,469. This is an increase of 3,247 over the number of objects recorded in 1913.

It should be noted that the largest part of these objects was included in the Riggs Collection of Armor, and that the next most important classes of objects received were for the Department of Egyptian Art, numbering 1,384, and for the section of

ceramics, 1,381, which included the Altman Collection of Chinese porcelains.

BEQUESTS

Several important bequests have been received: from John L. Cadwalader, collections of English eighteenth-century furniture, Chinese and Japanese bronzes, old English porcelain figures, and the sum of \$25,000 for the purchase of English furniture and porcelain; from Francis Thomas Sully Darley, five paintings by Thomas Sully, and one attributed to Van Dyck; from Fredericka Gade, \$5,000 in memory of her brother, Henry Gade; from Mrs. Mary M. Johnston, a collection of ceramics, prints, and embroidery; from Frederick Townsend Martin, a collection of colored prints, arms and armor, and a Dutch clock; and from August Lewis, a painting by George de Forest Brush.

GIFTS

The gifts have numbered 1,888; including the objects in the William H. Riggs Collection, 3,905. They include the Charles Stewart Smith Collection of Chinese and Japanese Paintings, presented by Mrs. Smith, Howard C. Smith, and Charles Stewart Smith, Jr.; 83 Japanese sword-guards, presented by Mrs. Adrian H. Joline; the Kawasaki Collection of Japanese armor, included in a gift of 500 pieces from Bashford Dean; and the very important gift of \$15,000 a year for the period of five years from Mrs. Edward J. Tytus, in memory of her son Robb de Peyster Tytus, for the purpose of providing for the publication of a record series of the principal monuments of Thebes by the Museum's Egyptian Expedition. Numerous and valuable gifts to the Egyptian Department have been received from Edward S. Harkness and from Theodore M. Davis.

PURCHASES

Fewer purchases have been made this year than in several years past, only 815 objects having been added to the collections in this way. The amount spent in acquisitions was \$310,466.08, which shows at once that the accessions have been of importance.

BULLETIN OF THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART

LOANS

The large number of loans recorded, 5,513 objects, embraces 4,264 pieces in the J. Pierpont Morgan Collection. Aside from this collection, the number of objects received in this way has been greater than last year, 1,249 objects having been received from 38 lenders. To all of the friends of the Museum who have contributed to the exhibitions, the Trustees desire to express their thanks, and especially to Theodore M. Davis for his numerous loans to the Egyptian Department and to Bashford Dean for important additions of armor.

CARE OF THE COLLECTIONS

Progress has been made in the registration, photographing, and cataloguing of works of art, not only new accessions, but those of earlier years. In this connection, 24,561 photographs, used in the keeping of records, have been made by the Museum photographer and mounted, and 12,428 labels have been printed in the Museum printing office.

THE BUILDING

On May 9th, the City, through the Department of Parks, issued contracts for the construction of two new additions to the Museum, to be known as Additions J and K. These wings are now being built in continuation of the Fifth Avenue façade to the south; they will balance Additions E and H, built in recent years to the north, thereby completing the Fifth Avenue front, and giving a frontage on Fifth Avenue, from 80th Street to 84th Street, of about 350 feet with a depth for Addition J of 104 feet and Addition K 145 feet. The City made an appropriation of \$750,000 for the construction of these wings, but as that amount was insufficient for the complete construction the present contracts do not include the interior finish of Addition K, which will have to be contracted for at a future date.

During the past summer an asphalted service road was constructed, entering the Park to the north opposite 84th Street, and connecting with the receiving department in Addition F.

EDUCATIONAL WORK

There has been a healthy growth of the educational work. Both public and private school teachers have made use of the collections, directly or indirectly connecting their visits with their studies; more students of design have studied and sketched from the objects in the galleries and study rooms, and more lectures have been given by the Museum Instructors, as well as by outside lecturers. Besides the efforts of the Museum itself in this direction, mention should be made of the classes held by the College of the City of New York and Columbia University in their extension courses, and also of the lectures given by the School Art League for its members, and for school teachers and pupils, the work of the Docent of this Society both in the schools and in the Museum, the lectures in Yiddish of the Arbeiter Ring, and of other societies and schools. The class room has been used 231 times, and the Lecture Hall 37 times.

MUSEUM INSTRUCTION

In 365 appointments, the Instructors have met 2,979 persons. Of this number, 2,411 consisted of teachers and classes from public and private schools. Besides the school children who have been met by the instructors, 31,599 children have been brought by their teachers, in connection with their school studies. To this number is to be added 776 children, visiting the galleries with the Docent of the School Art League, who was appointed by the Society for the encouragement of the study of art in schools and the use of the Museum.

The work of the Instructors may be summarized as follows:

Meeting members and visitors who desire to see the collections under guidance; meeting teachers desiring advice as to illustration of school studies; meeting school children sent to see the collections in connection with their studies; giving lectures in the Museum to teachers (two courses were given, for High and Elementary teachers, with an aggregate attendance of 345); giving talks to classes in the public schools on request of the teachers; arranging for the use of Museum material in the class rooms by teachers of design, etc.

The two new class rooms have been used by public school teachers for illustrated talks to their classes, by classes from the New York School of Applied Design, by classes of children from the Settlement Guild, under the direction of Miss Kallen, and by classes in the extension work of Columbia University, the College of the City of New York, and New York University.

The study room of textiles has had about one hundred visitors, and there have been frequent classes in the galleries. The Department of Music of Teachers' College and the Columbia Summer School have availed themselves of the opportunity afforded for the study of types of musical instruments and the Class in Physics of Teachers' College is also among those who have made use of the collection for study purposes.

COÖPERATION WITH OTHER INSTITUTIONS

The Museum, through its officers, has borne its part in meetings of societies with which it is affiliated, the American Association of Museums, The American Federation of Arts and the School Art League, while to the Municipal Art Gallery of the Washington Irving High School of this City, opened with a view to making the art treasures of the City more easily accessible to the business section, it lent for the summer months a selection of seventy-eight modern oil paintings and water-colors.

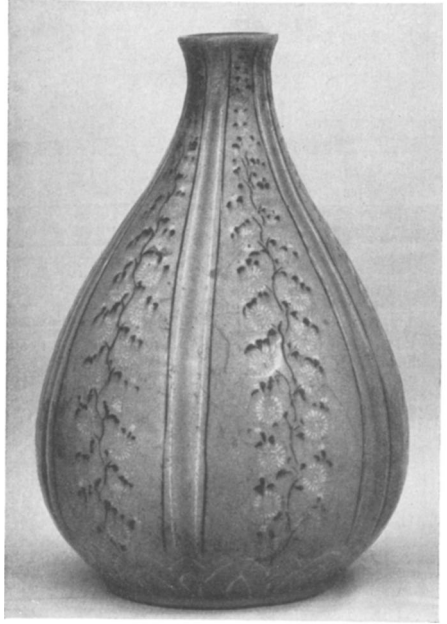
CONCLUSION

In these pages stress has been laid upon the material growth of the Museum, its collections, accessions, building, and educational work, as is fitting in the yearly accounting of the Board of Trustees to the corporate body; but the reader, forgetful of the occasion of this report, should not be led to infer that equal importance has not been attached by Trustees and staff alike to the most essential element of the Museum's life, the object of all of its endeavors. Facts and figures are given because they show more clearly than anything else that could be offered, the effort to give to the people of this City a place where objects of art may be studied, understood, and enjoyed.

ROBERT W. DE FOREST, President.

KOREAN POTTERY

A RAPIDLY growing taste for the early ceramics of Far Eastern nations is an interest of the day which has, as yet, found only limited illustration in the Museum collections, and for this reason a recent gift of thirty-



CELADON VASE, KOREAN
KORYU DYNASTY

two pieces of ancient Korean porcelain received from Mr. Samuel T. Peters is timely and welcome as a supplement and addition to the half-dozen examples of this ware previously shown here. The new pieces are now exhibited temporarily in the Room of Recent Accessions before taking their permanent place among the other porcelains.

Those of the general public who last year saw the loan exhibition of early Oriental ceramics, organized by the Japan Society, gained acquaintance with some of the finest specimens of such ancient porcelains known to exist, and the exhibition apparently aroused a lasting enthusiasm for wares of this kind, even among many